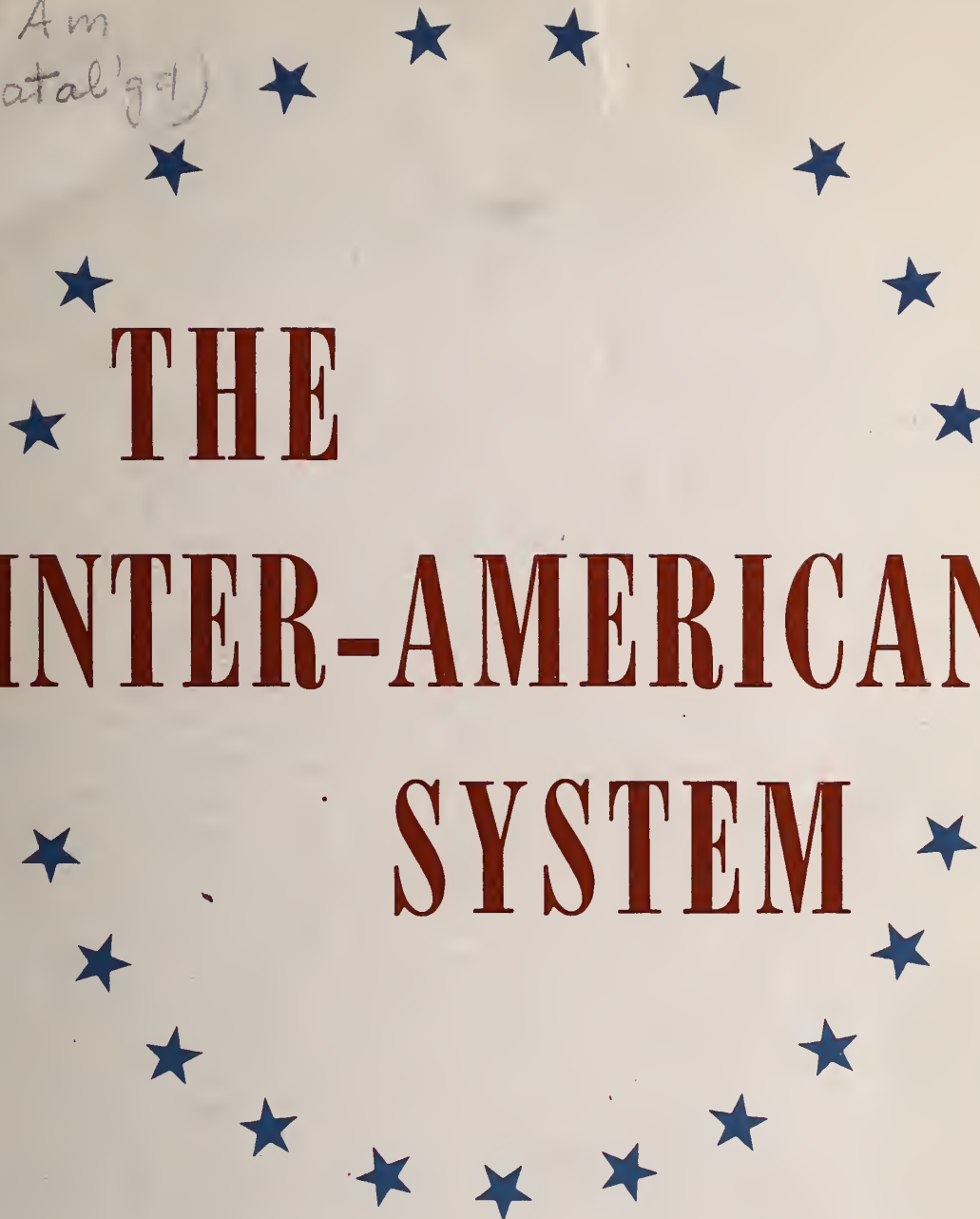


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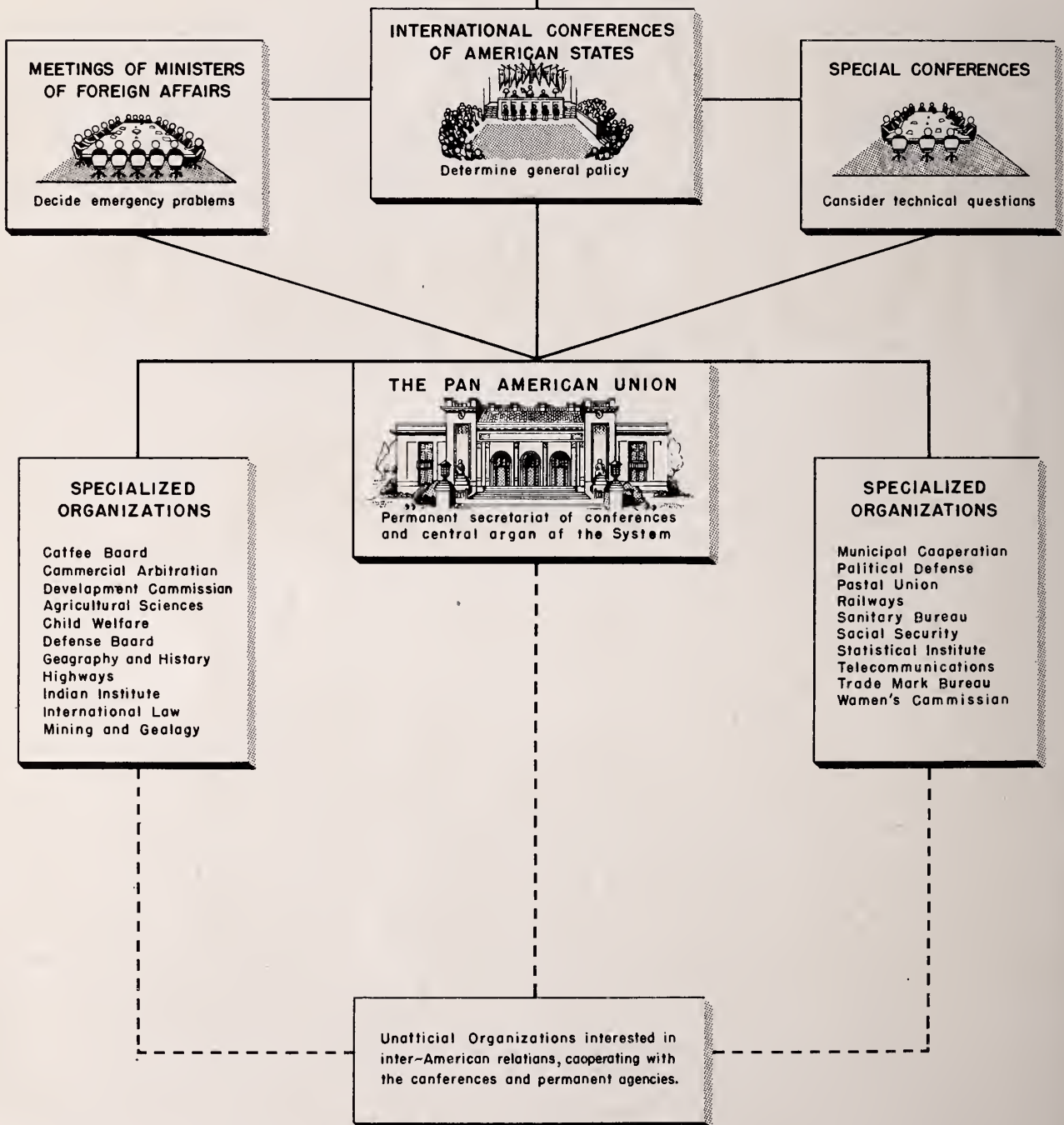
THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM

PAN AMERICAN UNION - WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM

Comprises the 21 Republics of the American Continent: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela

and functions through the



The Inter-American System in the New World Era

“The new situation in the world makes more imperative than ever the union of the American peoples, for the defense of their rights and the maintenance of international peace.”¹

Carrying forward the work in which they have been active for more than half a century, the Governments of the American Republics are now engaged in a comprehensive program designed to strengthen the Inter-American System and the mechanism through which it operates.

Closer political ties, greater collaboration for the defense of the Continent, positive cooperation along economic and social lines, and an intensification of intellectual and cultural interchange are included in this program.

“The Inter-American System . . . constitutes the living manifestation of the determination of the American Republics to act together for the fulfillment of their common purposes in the maintenance of peace and security and in the promotion of the well-being of their peoples.”

International cooperation among the republics of the Western Hemisphere began long before World

War II. The war served to bring into bold relief the value of a movement that began in 1890 and that traces its origin back to the early days of the nineteenth century.

Repeatedly throughout their history the nations of America have joined together to resist threats of aggression against their territorial integrity or political independence, and have cooperated in the solution of problems of common interest. The system of international relations developed on the American Continent has followed a natural evolutionary process, adapting itself to the needs of the moment.

“The Inter-American System, as an expression of the common ideals, the needs and the will of the community of American Republics, should be further improved and strengthened for the purpose of adjusting and solving inter-American problems.”

World War II emphasized how necessary to the security and welfare of each is the unity and solidarity of all the American Republics. For many years prior to the War the nations of the Western Hemisphere were engaged in a comprehensive program of political, economic, social and cultural cooperation. In anticipation of the new world era that is now beginning a broadening of the scope of inter-American action all along the line is in progress.

¹ Quotations from the Final Act of the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace, Mexico, 1945.

Mutual assistance in case of aggression has been agreed upon. The Inter-American Economic and Social Council has been established. The powers of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union have been extended to include the exercise of political functions. The procedures for the pacific settlement of disputes are to be coordinated and strengthened. A closer integration of all elements of the inter-American system is in process.

"The Inter-American System should maintain the closest relations with the proposed general international organization and assume the appropriate responsibilities in harmony with the prin-

ciples and purposes of the general international organization."

The measures to strengthen the Inter-American System are being taken primarily to facilitate the solution of problems of peculiar interest to the American Republics, but with a consciousness that the nations of the Western Hemisphere are a community of states in a world community.

The Inter-American System has always been motivated by a sincere desire for universal cooperation, and today as in the past the member states are lending their effective support to assure the success of the world organization.



The Pan American Union—central organ of the Inter-American System

The Americas

A glance at the map and a cursory examination of the major characteristics of these countries is enough to stir the imagination and stimulate a desire to know more about them and their people.

What is their geography?
What is their history?
What are their relations with one another?
With the rest of the world?

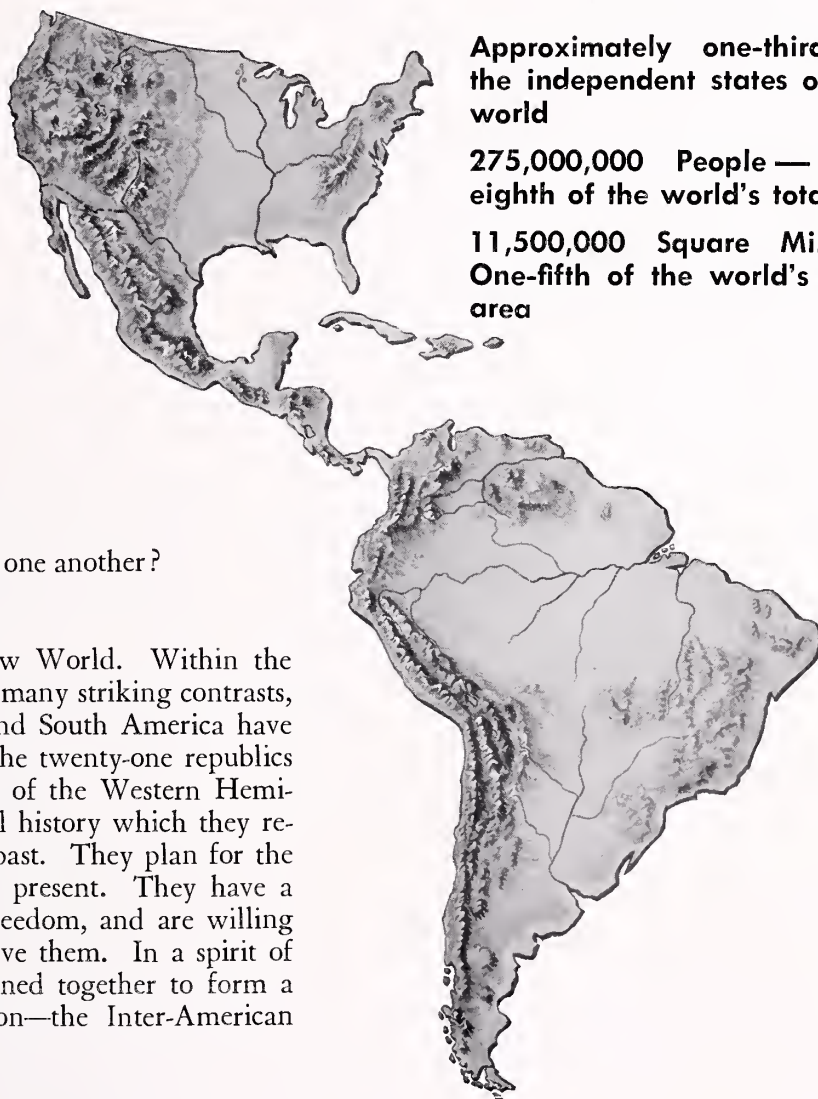
The Americas truly are a New World. Within the Western Hemisphere there are many striking contrasts, but at the same time North and South America have many features in common. The twenty-one republics that make up the greater part of the Western Hemisphere have a rich and colorful history which they respect without worshipping the past. They plan for the future, yet do not neglect the present. They have a profound love of peace and freedom, and are willing to work and sacrifice to preserve them. In a spirit of true cooperation they have joined together to form a great international organization—the Inter-American System.

21 REPUBLICS

Approximately one-third of the independent states of the world

275,000,000 People — One-eighth of the world's total

11,500,000 Square Miles — One-fifth of the world's land area



GEOGRAPHIC UNITY

Geography divides but it also unites. Extending virtually from pole to pole and separated from other land masses by wide oceans on either side, the Americas enjoy a unique position as compared with other geographical areas. The geographical unity of the Western Hemisphere has contributed in no small manner to that sentiment of solidarity that is such an outstanding characteristic of the American Republics.

The majestic Andes and the mighty Rockies constitute a single range, running like a spinal column the length of the Continent. Only through the isthmus of Central America do the mountains drop to a sufficiently low level to have made possible the construction of the Panama Canal—a physical division which has made the Continent an even more closely knit unit.

The Appalachians in eastern United States find their counterpart in the Brazilian highlands of eastern South America, both considerably lower and geologically older than the western range.

Four great river systems drain the Continent—magnificent waterways affording an unsurpassed network of interior communication—the Amazon, the Mississippi, the Orinoco, and the Parana.

At opposite ends of this vast geographic area are the great plains of central United States, and the fertile pampas of Argentina. Their appearance, climate, and products are almost identical, but their seasons are reversed.

HISTORICAL LINKS

Despite their different racial heritage and spiritual traditions, the Republics of America, united by common beginnings and professing a belief in similar institutions, have shown throughout their history a willingness to cooperate and live in harmony with one another.

The colonies in America, whether settled by Spain, France, Portugal, or England, looked to Europe for spiritual and cultural guidance, and

were subject to the same basic concept of colonial administration.

The wealth of natural resources with which the countries of this Hemisphere were endowed, their vast areas affording more than ample space for their relatively small populations, freed them to a great extent from the problems confronting more crowded nations. This fortunate circumstance further strengthened the seed that had been sown, and the feeling of brotherhood grew and flowered.

The same circumstances that gave rise to the Revolutionary War in the United States contributed to the Wars of Independence in the other Americas. Dissatisfaction with the political, economic, and intellectual restrictions of the mother countries led to the setting up of national governments from one end of the continent to the other in the half century from 1776 to 1825.

The trials and triumphs of Washington and his people were followed closely in the colonies that were Spain's and Portugal's. In turn, the dreams and accomplishments of Miranda, Bolivar, and San Martin found an echo in the heart of the new Republic of the United States. There existed a close spiritual bond that needed no artificial stimulation.

The parallel in political development continued in a broad sense after independence was achieved. *The Americas today are a continent of republics.* Monarchies, where originally established, were replaced by republics, and the people reaffirmed their belief in democracy.

BASIS OF THE PAN AMERICAN MOVEMENT

In this geographical setting and with this historical background the Pan American movement has evolved. It is the consequence of a series of factors:

"geographic unity, similarity of institutions, economic interests, love for democratic principles, and common international aspirations and trends."

RICARDO J. ALFARO

Former President of Panama

Cooperation— Keynote of the Americas

Cooperation is the keynote of the Americas. It is the cornerstone of the Inter-American System.

Cooperation runs like a thread through the whole history of the American Continent. Invoked by leaders in the movement for independence in every part of the Continent, it is older even than the American Republics themselves.

Francisco de Miranda, forerunner of Latin American Independence, was one of the earliest to conceive of the Continent united by common interests.

THOMAS JEFFERSON, commenting on Latin America, declared that

"nature has placed it too near us to make its movements altogether indifferent to our interests or to our curiosity."

Cooperation was a decisive factor in the Wars of Independence and in the establishment of national governments in many parts of the Continent. In northern South America, the people of Venezuela, Colombia, and Ecuador made common cause with one another. In the south, Argentines, Chileans, Uruguayans, and Paraguayans banded together. On the battlefields of Junin and Ayacucho, men of the north and south fought side by side with Peruvians. Throughout the

Continent the movement found a sympathetic response.

Once freedom had been won this policy of cooperation found expression in the relations among the independent states.

Simon Bolivar, the Liberator, genius of the Revolution and of political organization in South America, was the first to give form and substance to the broad concepts of continental solidarity uttered by his predecessors. It was he who convoked the Congress of Panama of 1826, forerunner of the conference movement and inspiration for all later attempts at inter-American organization. Bolivar's vision and far-seeing statesmanship were never more clearly shown than in his concept of a union of American states. His words are as applicable today as when they were written 125 years ago:

"Nothing is of as much importance at this moment as the formation of a league truly American It is necessary that ours should be a society of sister nations, for the present separated in the exercise of their sovereignty through the course of human events, but united, strong and powerful, to support each other against foreign aggression."

His words were echoed by Henry Clay, the earliest champion in the United States of the newly established states and of Hemispheric solidarity:

" . . . there could be no doubt that Spanish America, once independent, whatever might be the form of government established in its several parts,

these governments would be animated by an American feeling and guided by an American policy."

During the century and a quarter of independent existence that has followed, this spirit of mutual helpfulness has prevailed in the face of common dangers and in the solution of common problems.

The Inter-American Congresses held at Lima in 1847, Santiago in 1856, and Lima in 1864, were conceived at times when foreign aggression seemed imminent . . .

1842-1850—European interventions in the River Plate!

1857-1860—Filibustering expeditions of William Walker in Central America!

1860-1865—Spanish occupation of the Dominican Republic!

1863-1867—French invasion and the attempted establishment of Maximilian's Empire in Mexico!

1865—Spain's attempt to reassert sovereignty over Peru.

The new-born republics successfully resisted those attempts against their independence. The

conferences reflected the feeling of solidarity that encouraged this resistance.

"These conferences are in the nature of storm signals. When danger threatens or need arises, one of these conferences appears and it disappears with the return of the calm. They are the manifestation of solidarity in moments of crisis."

ESTEBAN GIL BORGES, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Venezuela

These conferences met the immediate problem for which they were called. They reflected and kept alive the spirit of cooperation that had played such a conspicuous role in the history of the Americas.

It was only a question of time before this innate characteristic of the people would find its natural expression—the establishment of a permanent system of international relations.

The time—1889!

The place—Washington!

The occasion—The First International Conference of American States!

It was this conference, meeting at the invitation of the Government of the United States, that gave definite form to the Pan American movement and



Francisco de Miranda



Simón Bolívar

laid the bases for a permanent organization. Through the trials, errors, failures, and successes of fifty-seven years, it has evolved into the present-day Inter-American System.

Fundamentally, the action taken in 1889 was a continuation of the movement initiated in 1826. Broader in scope and encompassing all the republics of the continent, it was conceived in the same spirit and animated by the same motives that prompted the calling of the Panama Congress—Continental cooperation and mutual assistance in the solution of common problems.

The words of Simon Bolivar were reaffirmed by Secretary of State James G. Blaine in 1889, as he welcomed the delegates:

"We meet in the firm belief that the nations of America ought to be and can be more helpful, each to the other, than they now are, and that each will find advantage and profit from an enlarged intercourse with the others. . . . It will be a great gain when we shall be able to draw the people of all American nations into close acquaintance with each other. . . . It will be the greatest gain when the personal and commercial relations of the American States, north and south, shall be so developed and so regulated that each shall ac-

quire the highest possible advantage from the enlightened and enlarged intercourse of all."

The Inter-American System has stood the test of time. Its roots are deep in the history of the Continent. The principles on which it is based contributed to the establishment and aided in the growth of the several republics.

Temporary differences and misunderstandings have not prevented its development, rather have they shown the efficacy of the System. It is a part of the natural evolution of the continent.

Cooperation is America's contribution to international relations. In contrast to the system of universal dominion and the balance of power doctrine, the Americas conceived and developed the system of cooperative action in their mutual relations.

"The destiny of America is to continue supporting attempts toward human improvement, and to continue serving as the scene of praiseworthy adventures. Either this is the meaning of history or history has no meaning . . . America began as an ideal and continues to be an ideal."

ALFONSO REYES

Mexican philosopher and writer



José de San Martín



Henry Clay

Conferences— Foundation of the System

Conferences are the principal medium through which the Inter-American System functions.

Conferences are of many kinds:

Official—composed only of delegates appointed by the governments.

Semi-Official—made up partly of government delegates and partly of individuals attending in their private capacity or as representatives of associations.

Unofficial—composed entirely of individuals and organization representatives.

Official inter-American conferences are what might be called the legislative branch of the System. Representatives of the several countries meet for the purpose of deliberating upon matters of common interest, and the conclusions at which they arrive, while not having the force of law, nevertheless constitute rules and recommendations which the states are expected to follow.

Conferences deal with many different subjects. Some are political in character and are called to consider problems affecting the relations between governments. Others are technical and highly specialized. Within the Inter-American System technical conferences have been held on every conceivable subject—agriculture, medicine, law, engi-

neering, education, transportation, commerce, and many others.

Conferences bring together men and women of many nationalities and having varied interests. The political conferences are primarily meetings of statesmen. The technical conferences bring together the farmers, the teachers, the lawyers, the engineers, the doctors. All these people have similar interests and speak the same language, even though it may be in different tongues. They have a community of interests similar to that which exists in every country and in cities and towns of every nation.

Conferences are merely an extension to international relations of the same procedures used in national life. They involve the solution of common problems by discussion, understanding and agreement.

In the evolution of the Pan American movement three types of conferences have developed:

The International Conferences of American States.

The Meetings of Consultation of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

The large number of meetings which go under the general classification of special or technical conferences.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES OF AMERICAN STATES

The International Conference of American States that met at Washington from October 2, 1889, to

April 19, 1890, laid the bases of the modern Pan American movement. It was also the first of a series of meetings that have continued to be held to this day.

Partly because they came first, but principally because of the nature of the subjects with which they deal, the International Conferences of American States are the parent body in the inter-American organization. They formulate general policy and determine the structure and functions of inter-American instruments and agencies.

These Conferences usually meet at intervals of five years in different capitals of the Continent. Longer periods may elapse between meetings when circumstances make it impossible or undesirable to hold them at the usual time. Thus, in the fifty-seven year history of the modern Pan American movement, eight such conferences have been held.

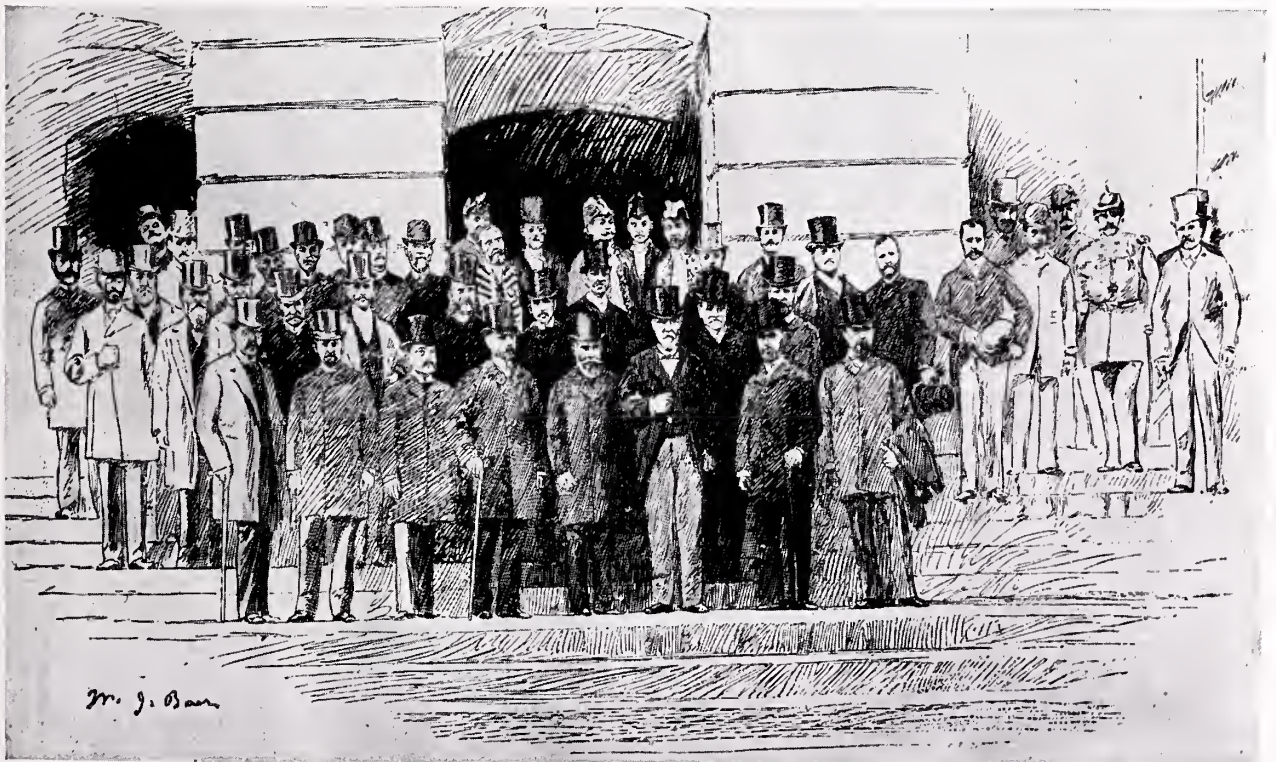
The conferences are official meetings of delegations appointed by each of the twenty-one governments. Governments may be represented by as many delegates as they wish to appoint, but every country has only one vote. All are on a footing of absolute equality. They are essentially

diplomatic gatherings and because of their importance, governments are frequently represented by their Secretaries of State and by other high-ranking officials responsible for the conduct of foreign affairs.

Voting is on the basis of majority rule. The purpose of the meeting is to arrive at a common agreement and every effort is made to seek a formula that is acceptable to all. But if unanimous agreement is not possible, decisions are made by a majority vote of the countries represented.

The American Republics were the first to introduce the practice of open discussions in their international assemblies, and both the plenary sessions and the committee meetings of the International Conferences of American States are open to the press.

Because the authority of these Conferences extends to the whole inter-American system, the programs of the meetings are correspondingly broad. They are usually divided into chapters, and a typical program would include topics on the organization of peace, international law, economic and social problems, intellectual cooperation, and the political and civil rights of women. Once the



Delegates to the First International Conference of American States, Washington, D. C. 1889-1890

Chronology of International Conferences of American States

First International Conference of American States, Washington, October 2, 1889–April 19, 1890.

Second International Conference of American States, Mexico, October 22, 1901–January 31, 1902.

Third International Conference of American States, Rio de Janeiro, July 23–August 27, 1906.

Fourth International Conference of American States, Buenos Aires, July 12–August 30, 1910.

Fifth International Conference of American States, Santiago, March 25–May 3, 1923.

Sixth International Conference of American States, Habana, January 16–February 20, 1928.

Seventh International Conference of American States, Montevideo, December 3–26, 1933.

Eighth International Conference of American States, Lima, December 9–27, 1938.

Ninth International Conference of American States, scheduled for Bogotá, December 1947.

Conference has been organized and officers elected, Committees are appointed, usually one for each chapter of the program. On these Committees each country is represented by one or more delegates, so that each Committee is in the nature of a conference in miniature working within the orbit of the larger gathering.

The progress of international relations in the Western Hemisphere is reflected to a very large extent in the discussions and in the conclusions reached at the International Conferences of American States. In a sense these meetings are a great forum. They are a sounding board of continental opinion; a medium for consolidating in a continental sense what the nations or a majority of them are prepared to do individually.

"The great object of these conferences should be to express collectively what is already understood to be unanimous; to unite, in the interval between one and another what may have already completely ripened in the opinion of the

continent, and to impart to it the power resulting from an accord amongst all American nations."

JOAQUIM NABUCO

Brazilian statesman and jurist.

The same or related subjects frequently appear in the programs of successive conferences. This repetition of topics is an indication of the progressive trend in inter-American relations. Each conference takes a step in advance of that of its predecessor. Thus, the mechanism for the peaceful settlement of international disputes in the Western Hemisphere did not spring full blown out of a single conference. It is the result of a number of conferences extending back to 1923, each of the succeeding meetings adding to the basic groundwork laid at that time.

Similar growth and progress are to be observed in other fields—in the codification of international law, in economic relations, in transportation and communications and in cultural relations. These subjects are receiving constant attention and study. They have appeared on the programs of previous conferences, and without doubt will be considered at future inter-American gatherings.

"Not in a single conference nor by a single effort can very much be done. You labor more for the future than for the present; but if the right impulse be given, if the right tendency be established, the work you do here will go on among all the millions of people in the American continents long after your final adjournment. . . ."

ELIHU ROOT

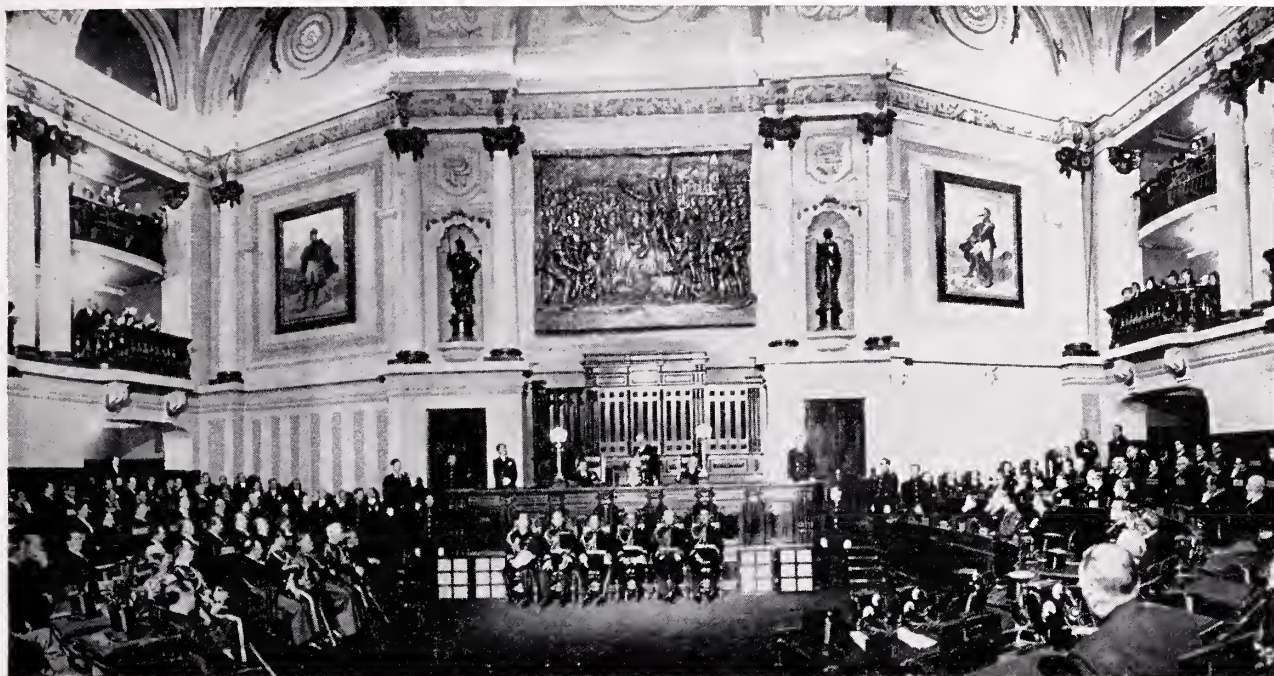
Former United States Secretary of State.

MEETINGS OF CONSULTATION OF THE MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Meetings of Consultation of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs are a part of the movement to preserve the peace and assure the security of the Continent.

The procedure of consultation grew out of the tense international atmosphere that preceded the war, and the three Meetings of Consultation thus far held all dealt with problems arising out of World War II.

The meetings are essentially political in character. They are charged with taking decisions on problems of great urgency and importance concerning the Inter-American System and with regard to situations and disputes of every kind which may disturb the peace of the American



Opening Session of the Eighth International Conference of American States, Lima, 1938

Republics. The meetings may also be convoked to consider questions of an economic, social or cultural nature, if these are of sufficient urgency and importance.

As the title implies, these meetings are made up of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the respective countries. If, under exceptional circumstances, a Minister should be unable to attend, he may be represented by a special delegate. He may also be accompanied by such advisers as he desires, but the Minister himself is the principal delegate.

Any government may propose a Meeting of Consultation. If the suggestion is accepted by a majority of the twenty-one governments, the Gov-

erning Board of the Pan American Union prepares the program and makes the other necessary arrangements for the meeting.

Although composed of representatives of all the twenty-one governments, the meetings are not conferences in the strict sense of the term. They are more in the nature of consultations to discuss specific problems that require immediate attention and prompt decision. They are therefore more restricted in scope and are conducted in a more informal manner than the International Conferences of American States.

SPECIAL INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCES

Supplementing the International Conferences of American States are the large number of special conferences which, during recent years, have become an outstanding feature of the Pan American movement. More than two hundred such meetings have been held, in every country of the Continent and on every subject affecting the welfare of the American Republics. They are essentially technical in character, called for the purpose of considering a specific topic or a group of related topics.

Many of these special conferences meet only once and for a single purpose. Others tend to perpetuate themselves and hold meetings at regular inter-

Chronology of Meetings of Consultation of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs

First Meeting of Consultation, Panama, September 23–October 3, 1939.

Second Meeting of Consultation, Habana, July 21–30, 1940.

Third Meeting of Consultation, Rio de Janeiro, January 15–28, 1942.

vals. Several have a history extending back over a considerable period, particularly the Pan American Sanitary Conferences, the American Scientific Conferences, and the Pan American Commercial Conferences.

There is considerable variation in the manner in which the specialized conferences are organized and conducted. Like the International Conferences of American States, many of them are strictly official, others are semiofficial, and some are purely private and unofficial in character.

It is principally at these meetings that representatives having similar interests gather. The Pan American Highway Congresses bring together the highway engineers of the twenty-one countries and it is as a result of these meetings that so much progress has been made in the construction of the Pan American Highway. Doctors and public health officials meet in the Pan American Sanitary Conferences and in the Pan American Medical

Congresses. Lawyers are brought together at meetings of the Inter-American Bar Association; teachers in Pan American Educational Conferences, and social workers in Child Health and in the Pan American Red Cross Conferences.

These meetings are further evidence of the flexibility of the Inter-American System. A specialized conference may be called at any time, by an International Conference of American States, by the Governing Board of the Pan American Union, or on the initiative of one or more governments. Many unofficial inter-American conferences are called merely because individuals and associations having related interests want to get together and exchange views.

The specialized conferences are an interesting feature of the development of international relations in the Western Hemisphere. They have made important contributions to the progress of the Inter-American System.

Specialized Inter-American Conferences

A partial list

Pan American Sanitary Conferences. Twelve meetings, originating in 1902.

Pan American Highway Congresses. Three meetings, originating in 1925.

Inter-American Bar Association. Four meetings, originating in 1941.

Pan American Commercial Conferences. Five have been held, beginning in 1911.

Inter-American Conferences on Agriculture. Three have met, beginning in 1930.

Pan American Postal Congresses. There have been five, beginning in 1921.

Inter-American Radio Conferences (telecommunications). Three have been held, between 1937 and 1945.

Pan American Child Congresses. Eight have been held so far, beginning in 1916.

Pan American Scientific Congresses. Eight in number, starting in 1909.

Pan American Geography and History. Four General Assemblies of the Institute have met, starting in 1932.

Inter-American Indian Congress. First held in 1940; second scheduled in 1947.

Inter-American Teachers Conferences. Five in number, beginning in 1928.

Inter-American Press Conferences. Four, beginning in 1942.

Inter-American Commission of Women. Five Assemblies have been held since 1938.

The Pan American Union and Other Agencies

*T*he regular and special Pan American Conferences are the very core of the Inter-American System. Yet these conferences would lose much of their effectiveness were it not for the permanent agencies that stay in constant session. They give continuity to the work of the conferences. They supply the cohesive force, the permanent address, the secretariat, the library, and files for the conferences. Best known and most important of these agencies is the Pan American Union, secretariat of the conferences and central organ of the Inter-American System.

But to say merely that the Pan American Union serves as a permanent secretariat leaves much unsaid. The Pan American Union channels its services to the peoples and governments of the Americas through many outlets.

Ask the historian or the older inhabitant what the Pan American Union is, and he might reply that it is simply an outgrowth of the "Commercial Bureau of the American Republics" set up in 1890 by the First International Conference of American States. The student of Government would say that it was an administrative staff, working under a Governing Board, and made up of a Director General, an Assistant Director, and

various heads of subject-matter divisions. To thousands of visitors the Pan American Union is a beautiful building in Washington, erected from funds given by Andrew Carnegie and the member governments on land donated by the United States. To other thousands it is the place where concerts of Latin American music are occasionally given. The citrus fruit grower in far-off Brazil will remember it as the institution which helped him to identify an insect pest from his groves and later to bring it under control. To the businessman, diplomat, or casual visitor from Latin America the Pan American Union is his own organization, a "neutral," friendly spot in a strange, foreign land. The exchange student who went to another American country for his education will tell you that the Pan American Union is the institution which gave him not only complete information about the educational facilities in which he was interested, but arranged for scholarship aid and furnished complete travel information.

These are but segments which, when added to the many other services rendered, make up the complete picture of the Pan American Union. In this spirit, one might symbolize the institution as a mosaic of services.

The scope of the Pan American Union is as broad as the sum total of the activities and interests of its twenty-one member states and their 275 million inhabitants. Now in its fifty-seventh

year, it is the oldest and most successful association of sovereign governments in the world.

This union or association of governments is entirely voluntary and free from all physical compulsion. Whereas any member nation may withdraw at any time, it is significant that none has ever done so. It is supported by annual contributions from the twenty-one governments in amounts proportional to population.

The Pan American Union has grown slowly over the years and is still evolving with every new conference. It is alert to changing world and hemispheric conditions, and is flexible enough to deal with new problems without altering its basic character. Another element of strength is its use of the formula of absolute equality among member states in all international undertakings. There are no blocks of large and small nations—no questions are reserved for the major powers alone. The spirit of friendly cooperation and disinterested service, has remained in the Pan American Union to this day and contributed to its many achievements.

ORGANIZATION, ADMINISTRATION, FUNCTIONS

The direction of the Pan American Union is entrusted to a Governing Board, made up of one representative from each of the twenty-one governments. It is authorized to take action on every matter that affects the effective functioning of the

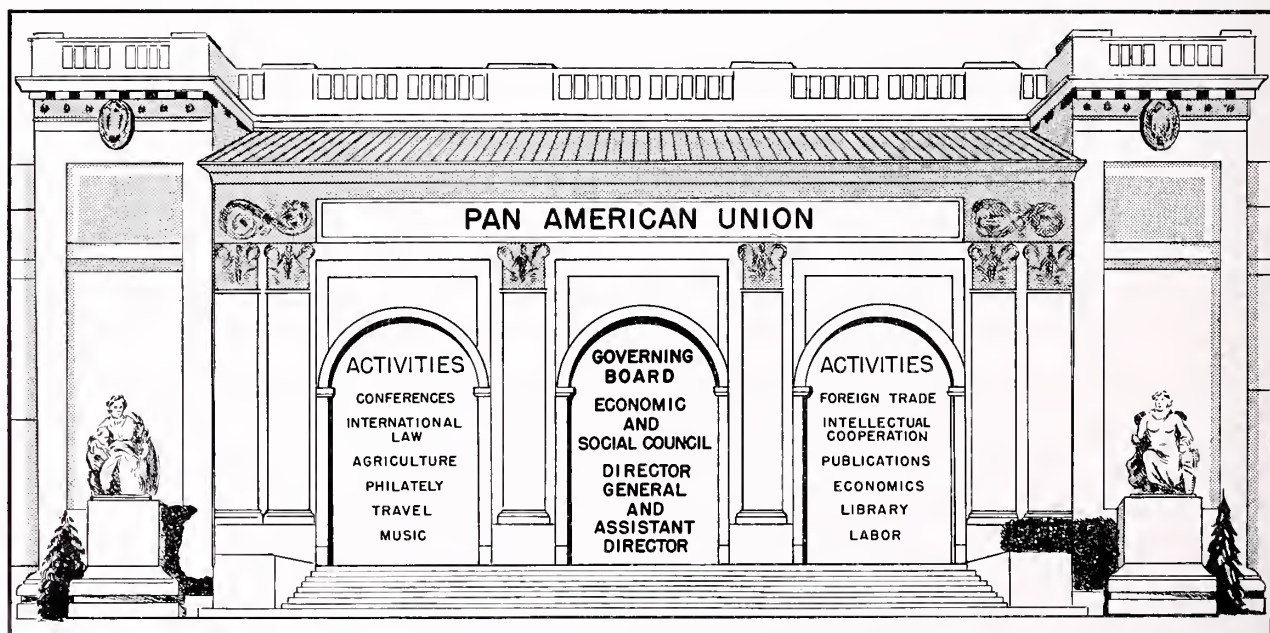
Inter-American System and the solidarity and general welfare of the American Republics. It is likewise entrusted with the supervision of inter-American agencies which are or may become related to the Pan American Union.

The representatives on the Governing Board are chosen freely by the respective governments. They may be the diplomatic representatives in Washington and the United States Secretary of State, or they may be special representatives who are given the rank of Ambassador. The Board elects its own chairman and vice chairman for one year, and each member is entitled to one vote and an equal voice with all other members in the Board's discussions.

The Governing Board prepares the programs and regulations of the International Conferences of American States and the Meetings of Consultation of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs. It also fixes the dates of the conferences in agreement with the governments of the countries in which they are to be held. Many special conferences are convened by or on the initiative of the Governing Board, which also takes the steps that are deemed necessary to carry out the conclusions reached at inter-American conferences.

The Governing Board is in a sense a permanent assembly of the Governments of the twenty-one Republics.

As an integral part of the Pan American Union,





Governing Board Room of the Pan American Union

subsidiary to the Governing Board, the Inter-American Economic and Social Council was installed November 15, 1945. It is a body of twenty-one members representing the governments of the American Republics, and is a continuation of the Financial and Economic Advisory Committee set up in 1939 immediately following the outbreak of the war in Europe. The Council is empowered to coordinate all official inter-American economic and social activities, promote social progress and a higher standard of living for all the peoples of America, undertake research and make recommendations to the governments through the Governing Board, and work closely with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and other international agencies.

Chief administrative official of the Pan American Union is the Director General, who is elected by and is directly responsible to the Governing Board. His duties are to supervise the work of the Union along the lines prescribed by the various conferences, the Governing Board, and the statutes of the institution. These duties are shared by the Assistant Director, who also serves as Secretary of the Governing Board. The Director General and Assistant Director head a permanent staff

of around 160 administrative officers, editors, research workers, analysts, translators, clerks, and stenographers.

As the "Commercial Bureau of the American Republics," the original functions of the Pan American Union were:

Economic, to collect commercial and other information of an economic character.

Editorial, to publish and distribute the information so collected through the medium of a Bulletin.

Conferences, to serve as the secretariat of the International Conferences of American States, and to prepare their programs and regulations.

The Pan American Union has continued to carry on these activities down to the present day. But even as the Inter-American System has grown and expanded, so has the Pan American Union enlarged and developed. As the need arose and circumstances required, new activities have been assumed and new offices established through which they are carried on:

1902. *The Columbus Memorial Library* was established, and contains today 135,000 vol-

umes and pamphlets, 2,200 maps, and 178 atlases dealing with the American Republics.

- 1917. *Intellectual Cooperation*, to promote the exchange of teachers and students, and to disseminate information on the art, science, and literature of the American Republics.
- 1928. *Agriculture*, to encourage a greater exchange of information, plant and animal material, and technicians between nations.
- 1935. *Travel*, to promote inter-American tourist travel.
- 1937. *Juridical* affairs, to undertake studies in the field of jurisprudence.
- 1940. *Labor and Social Information*, to compile and disseminate information on all matters relating to developments in the social and labor fields.
- 1940. *Philately*, to make available to collectors postage stamps of the member countries.
- 1941. *Music*, to coordinate inter-American efforts in this branch of culture.
- 1942. *Special Publications*, to prepare the large number of special publications issued by the Pan American Union.

As an official institution, the Pan American Union has a direct responsibility to the Governments of the American Republics. Its services, however, are available to all, and the facilities of its administrative and technical divisions are offered to and are utilized alike by private individuals and organizations, as well as by official agencies, in all parts of the Continent.

OTHER PERMANENT AGENCIES

Just as special conferences have developed to supplement the general inter-American assemblies, specialized agencies have been established to complement the work of the Pan American Union. In the fields in which they operate and the manner in which they are organized, these agencies closely parallel the conferences.

Permanent agencies have been set up in every field of inter-American endeavor—the political, military, economic, cultural, juridical, public health and social welfare, and transportation and communications.

Like the conferences, the specialized agencies

vary widely in their form of organization. Many are strictly official, established by virtue of action taken at inter-American conferences or by governmental agreement and with membership limited to governments. Some are semiofficial, with a combination of governmental participation and private membership. Others are wholly unofficial, made up entirely of private individuals and associations with common interests. Sometimes the line of distinction is so narrow it is difficult to determine whether a particular organization should be placed in one category or another.

There is also variation in the manner in which the specialized agencies function. Some have taken the form of offices with a permanent secretariat. Others are permanent committees operating not through a central office but by correspondence among the various members. In this case the Pan American Union frequently serves as the secretariat or channel of communication among the members and between them and the different governments.

In the future development of the Inter-American System a strengthening and closer coordination of the permanent inter-American agencies is contemplated. The Governing Board of the Pan American Union has been entrusted with the supervision of agencies which are or may become related to the Union. It has also been authorized to propose the creation of new agencies or the elimination or reorganization of existing ones, specifying and coordinating their functions.

Whatever the form of organization and whatever the field in which they operate, the purpose of all specialized inter-American organizations is to contribute to the advancement of the System. Leaders within any profession, trade, industry, or social group may, and often do, unite with their fellows from neighboring countries to study common problems, to share their progress, and to meet by common agreement the difficulties besetting their group.

It is along the quiet, unspectacular front of the permanent agencies that the Inter-American System has registered such great progress. These agencies both create and reflect the atmosphere of true Pan Americanism which is vital to the success of the conference program, and hence their role and service are of the greatest importance.



Hemisphere Peace and Security

Peace has always been a profound and genuine aspiration of the people and governments of the Americas. Their international history is one continuous, sincere effort on behalf of peace.

This fact is shown by the action of individual nations, by the joint action of different nations, and by the group action of all.

It is confirmed by the many treaties of arbitration and by the comprehensive peace system developed by the nations of the Western Hemisphere.

It is demonstrated by the concrete application of the principle of pacific settlement in the friendly solution of differences between nations.

The Americas were the first group of states to propose settling their differences by peaceful means. Arbitration treaties were peculiar to this Hemisphere until late in the nineteenth century. Most of these agreements were unlimited in character and under them any and all disputes could be settled by arbitration.

The American nations have also taken individual action to foster the principle of pacific settlement. The Constitutions of several countries call for arbitration before resorting to stronger measures.

The first permanent international court of justice was established in the Americas. The Central American Court of Justice was created by Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua in 1907, and during the ten years of its existence, the Court set many valuable precedents.

Arbitration is one of the great contributions of America to the progress and stability of the world.

The inter-American machinery for the peaceful solution of differences has grown by stages. One step has followed the other: investigation, conciliation, arbitration, and consultation.

What do these terms mean?

Investigation is the first step in the solution of a dispute, involving merely an inquiry into the facts.

Conciliation is an inquiry into the facts with recommendations for settling the dispute.

Arbitration is the method of settlement whereby the decision is binding on the parties.

Consultation involves discussion by all governments to decide how a specific problem should be met. It is a recognition of the responsibility of the Continent for the maintenance of peace.

Here again is an illustration of how the Inter-American System progresses, each step going a little further than the other. The process is not yet complete. The next step is to coordinate the different methods in one all-embracing document.

A project of this nature has already been prepared and is to be submitted to the Ninth International Conference of American States. Nor will this be the last word on the subject. The machinery will keep pace with the times.

SPECIFIC APPLICATION OF PACIFIC SETTLEMENT

The American Republics have done more than merely subscribe to the principle of pacific settle-

ment. They have put it to practical use. They have given concrete demonstration of their desire to settle by peaceful means international differences to which they may be parties.

It is logical that in their relations with more powerful nations, new and relatively weak States should advocate arbitration as a means of settling differences. But this principle has also been applied by the nations of this Continent in their rela-

Existing Inter-American Peace Agreements

1. Treaty to Avoid or Prevent Conflicts between the American States, May 3, 1923 (Gondra Treaty).
2. General Convention of Inter-American Conciliation, January 5, 1929.
3. General Treaty of Inter-American Arbitration and Additional Protocol of Progressive Arbitration, January 5, 1929.
4. Additional Protocol to the General Convention of Inter-American Conciliation, December 26, 1933.
5. Anti-War Treaty of Non-Aggression and Conciliation, October 10, 1933.
6. Convention for the Maintenance, Preservation and Re-establishment of Peace, December 23, 1936.
7. Convention to Coordinate, Extend and Assure the Fulfillment of the Existing Treaties between the American States, December 23, 1936.
8. Inter-American Treaty on Good Offices and Mediation, December 23, 1936.
9. Treaty on the Prevention of Controversies, December 23, 1936.
10. Declaration of the Principles of the Solidarity of America, December 24, 1938.



The Christ of the Andes

Examples of the Peaceful Settlement of Inter-American Disputes

Brazil. Bordering on every one of the other South American Republics except Chile and Ecuador, and touching also the three European possessions in northern South America, Brazil settled all its boundary problems by peaceful means in an extraordinary series of direct negotiations and references to arbitration.

Argentina-Chile. A boundary dispute settled by arbitration, one part by the King of England and another by the Minister of the United States in Buenos Aires. The statue, "The Christ of the Andes," on the boundary between the two countries, commemorates this peaceful settlement of a serious controversy.

Tacna-Arica. A long-standing dispute between Chile and Peru, arising out of the treaty of 1883, settled in 1929 by direct negotiation between the parties, with the good offices of the Government of the United States.

Guatemala-Honduras. A boundary dispute settled in 1933 by the award of an arbitral tribunal composed of the Chief Justice of the United States as presiding officer and members designated by Guatemala and Honduras.

Leticia Controversy. A dispute between Colombia and Peru settled in 1934 as a result of negotiations conducted under the auspices of a commission appointed by the League of Nations.

Dominican Republic-Haiti. A controversy originating in a number of frontier incidents in 1937, settled through the Permanent Conciliation Commission set up under the terms of the Treaty to Avoid or Prevent Conflicts of 1923 and the Conciliation Convention of 1929.

Ecuador-Peru. A century-old boundary dispute settled in 1942 by the terms of a protocol signed at Rio de Janeiro at the time of the Third Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the American Republics.

tions with one another, and they have to their credit a remarkable number of peaceful settlements.

The transition from the status of colonies to that of independent states left virtually all the American Republics with undefined boundaries, one of the most fruitful sources of international strife. And yet today the vast majority of these boundary questions have been settled—settled with few exceptions by the orderly processes of peaceful negotiation or by submission to arbitration.

Peace has not always prevailed on the American Continent. There have been international controversies in the Americas. There have been international wars. But in relation to the number of questions that might have led to war, those that resulted in actual strife are isolated instances that serve but to set forth in bold relief the extraordinary record of the American nations in the peaceful settlement of international disputes.

HEMISPHERE SECURITY

Every attack of a state against the integrity or the inviolability of the territory, or against the sovereignty or political independence of an American State, is an act of aggression against all.

ACT OF CHAPULTEPEC

Mexico, 1945.

The American Republics have consistently settled their differences by peaceful means. They are prepared, however, to take more forceful measures whenever their peace or security is threatened.

The principle of reciprocal assistance, expressed in various declarations and resolutions, has been applied on more than one occasion. It was given concrete application in World War I. In World War II every one of the American Republics entered the war against the aggressor states, and all made important contributions to its successful prosecution, some in a military, others in an economic sense. Brazil sent a division to Europe which participated in the Italian campaign, and its territory was an important area for bases and a convenient route to the battle zones. A Mexican aviation squadron saw action in the Pacific. Other countries provided bases and contingents to defend the approaches to strategic areas of the Continent, and the mineral and agricultural output of all the Republics was of tremendous assistance in supplementing the vast resources of the United States.

To contribute to the defense of the Hemisphere the American Republics during the war established a number of emergency agencies:

The Inter-American Defense Board.

The Emergency Advisory Committee for Political Defense.

The Inter-American Juridical Committee.

These continue to function and some will no doubt be made permanent as a further guarantee of continental peace and security.

As among themselves, the Republics of the American Continent have subscribed to the principle of mutual assistance.

As members of the United Nations, they have accepted the principles and procedures for the maintenance of peace and security contained in the Charter of the World Organization.

With these facilities, the Republics of the Western Hemisphere are well equipped to settle by

peaceful means any difference that may arise among them, and to resist any aggression that may be directed against them.

"The imperative mandate of national honor and our obligations as a member of the Pan American family make it impossible for us to look with indifference on the present conflict, but on the contrary oblige us to face it jointly with the United States of America; and notwithstanding our limited resources, to assume the same risks in this emergency, contributing everything in our power for the common defense of the Continent."

*Costa Rican Declaration of War
Against Germany, December 7,
1941.*



"The faith of the Americas lies in the spirit. The system, the sisterhood, of the Americas is impregnable so long as her nations maintain that spirit!" Franklin D. Roosevelt at the Inter-American Conference for the Maintenance of Peace, Buenos Aires, 1936.

Economic and Social Relations

*T*he American Republics have to their credit a long history of cooperation in economic relations, labor, social welfare, public health and sanitation. Declarations of basic principles have been formulated, permanent agencies have been established, and definite agreements have been reached, all of which have advanced the welfare of each nation and contributed to the progress of all.

The Americas are rich in natural resources. While not completely self-sufficient, they are able to satisfy most of their needs and what cannot be found in one nation can usually be obtained in another. It is in their collective production that the economic strength of the Americas lies.

From the tropical countries of the Continent come the coffee, sugar, cacao, fruits, oils, waxes, and hardwoods. The temperate zone countries of the north and south produce the cereal crops and pastoral products. Such items as automobiles, radios, agricultural machinery, and the thousand and one items that enter into the daily life of a people, come from the industrialized nations. The mountainous countries of America, rich in many mineral products essential to our modern civilization, contribute copper, tin, lead, and zinc, to say nothing of the extensive deposits of gold, silver, and platinum, or the nitrate deposits of northern Chile, so important to the agriculturist.

The inter-American system of economic relations is not based on any consideration of continental isolation, or a desire to exclude other countries of the world from participation. Even as one

nation cannot live alone, so no group of states should or can pursue a policy of economic self-sufficiency. The American Republics have accordingly developed commercial and financial relations not only among themselves, but with countries throughout the world.

A glance at the list of inter-American conferences gives an idea of the importance that the American nations attach to economic matters. Among the specialized conferences that have been held a large proportion deal with economic questions, as for example the Pan American Commercial Conferences; financial conferences; highway, aviation, railway, maritime and postal conferences; mining and agricultural conferences; and conferences on specific products.

The permanent agencies that have been set up within the Inter-American System are a further evidence of this interest. Not a few of these organizations have been established to operate in the economic field. Among them may be mentioned:

- The Inter-American Economic and Social Council.
- The Inter-American Development Commission.
- The Pan American Institute of Mining Engineering and Geology.
- The Inter-American Commercial Arbitration Commission.
- The Pan American Highway Confederation and the Permanent Association of the Pan American Highway Congresses.
- The Inter-American Statistical Institute.
- The Inter-American Telecommunications Office.
- The Pan American Trade Mark Bureau.

The Inter-American Coffee Board.
The Inter-American Institute of Agricultural
Sciences.

In addition to these measures of a continental scope, a large number of bilateral agreements have been signed. An example of this type of arrangement, to cite but one, is the Reciprocal Trade Agreements program of the United States, under which separate trade agreements have been negotiated with fifteen of the other American Republics, namely: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

The effect of such measures is to strengthen the economic bonds existing among the several countries of the Continent, and to place on a mutually satisfactory basis the commercial interchange which their geographical position within the Inter-American System makes possible.

Economic relations involve far more than the mere exchange of goods. The existence of a basis of commercial intercourse requires the development of facilities with which that trade may be carried on.

To meet the need for such facilities, transportation lines have been extended to every section of the Continent—by sea, by land, and by air. Maritime lines serve every country. They operate along both coasts and penetrate into the interior along the routes of the great river systems.

The Pan American Highway is a good example of how the need for improved transportation facilities is being met. What was a dream scarcely fifteen years ago is fast becoming a reality.

In few sections of the world has aviation made greater strides than in the Americas—again in response to the requirements and the demands of commerce. The first commercial air line originated in one of the American Republics—Colombia. Today national and international lines criss-cross the Continent, linking the twenty-one Republics with one another and with every part of the world.

Communication systems have been organized to facilitate trade and to transmit news and other information. The telephone, the telegraph, the radio keep each country in daily touch with all the others and afford an admirable means not only for the conduct of business but for the growth of international understanding.



Agriculture—cornerstone of continental economy.



Industry is progressing in many parts of the Continent.

The Continent is rich in mineral products.



Extensive banking facilities have been provided. Large sums of capital have been invested in every one of the American Republics to develop their natural resources and expand their manufacturing industries. An interesting development of recent years, and a significant application of the principle of mutual cooperation, is the practice of making available to other countries, not only capital but also technicians for the establishment of industrial enterprises.

The effects of all these measures—commercial, financial, and industrial—are manifold. They improve the economy of the individual countries, raise the standard of living of the respective peoples, place on a mutually satisfactory basis the economic relations of the various countries, and strengthen the basis on which the Inter-American System rests.

SOCIAL WELFARE AND LABOR

"The failure of any nation to adopt just and humane labor conditions is an obstacle in the path of other nations that desire to comply with that indispensable principle.

"The family, as a social unit, is a fundamental institution, for whose moral stability, economic improvement, and social welfare the State should take the necessary measures.

"Poverty, malnutrition, sickness, and ignorance are lamentable and transitory conditions of human life, and the American nations will undertake to combat them energetically and decisively."

DECLARATION OF SOCIAL PRINCIPLES,
Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace, Mexico, 1945.

Economic Charter of the Americas

Summary of Principles

The American Republics declare that their guiding principles shall be:

1. To direct their economic policies so as to raise the level of living, expand trade and increase income, employment, and consumption, to the end that their people may be adequately fed, housed, and clothed and have access to the services needed for health, education, and well-being and enjoy the rewards of their labor in dignity and in freedom.

2. To cooperate with all nations so that all may have equality of access to the trade, raw materials, and producers' goods of the world.

3. To reduce trade barriers, stabilize currencies, and promote international investment so as to assure to all peoples high levels of living and the sound development of their economies.

4. To prevent cartels and other private agreements from restricting international trade, and otherwise interfering with maximum production and fair competition.

5. To eliminate by international agreement evils resulting from economic nationalism, such as excessive import restrictions and the practice of dumping.

6. To assure just and equitable treatment, by individual and collective measures, to the businesses, skills, and capital moving from one country to another.

7. To seek early action designed to bring into operation the International Monetary Fund, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the Food and Agricultural Organization.

8. To promote private enterprise and remove as far as possible obstacles which retard or discourage economic growth and development.

9. To facilitate the distribution of production surpluses, by national and international action of consuming and producing countries, looking to the expansion of consumption and readjustment of production.

10. To take steps to assure to workers the objectives of the Declaration of Philadelphia, adopted by the International Labor Conference.

INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON
PROBLEMS OF WAR AND PEACE.
Mexico, 1945.



Trade is a fundamental basis of the Inter-American System.

This declaration, as well as other resolutions of inter-American conferences, emphasizes the need of international cooperation in the solution of social problems, directed toward the improvement of the material conditions of the working classes of all countries.

Individual leaders in the inter-American field have also been greatly interested in the promotion of democratic living in all walks of life and the protection and aid of the handicapped and underprivileged.

Various agencies of inter-American cooperation in the social field have been established to give effect to the ideals expressed in these resolutions and declarations.

The American International Institute for the Protection of Childhood with headquarters in Montevideo was one of the first agencies of this character to be created.

The Inter-American Indian Institute, organized at Mexico City in 1940, is active in all matters relating to the social and economic betterment of the Indian population of the American Republics.

An important part of the program of the Economic and Social Council is the study of social problems confronting the American nations. A Permanent Inter-American Committee on Social Security has also been established and the Inter-American Commission on Inter-Municipal Cooperation with headquarters in Havana has been active in the solution of social problems confronting American municipalities.

The foregoing permanent agencies grew out of inter-American conferences called to consider problems in their respective fields. The Pan American Child Congresses—the first of which was held in 1916—are among the oldest of the specialized conferences. Special inter-American conferences have also been held on Indian affairs, social security, the Red Cross, municipal cooperation, cooperatives, and housing.

The First Pan American Congress of Social Service was held in Santiago, Chile, in 1945. More and more contacts are developing among the schools of social work of which there are at present over one hundred in the Western Hemisphere.

There is at present no truly inter-American organization representing labor groups. The Confederation of Latin American Workers, however, has held two general Assemblies at which labor unions from most of the countries have been represented. There have also been three conferences of the American members of the International Labor Organization, with which the Permanent Committee on Social Security is closely affiliated.

The establishment of the Division of Labor and Social Information at the Pan American Union in 1940 was an important step in the coordination of research and activities in the fields of labor and social welfare.

The work of the Division covers the field of labor and social welfare in all its aspects. Close contact is maintained with the trade union movement in the different countries, and separate sec-



The Pan American Highway—a continental link.

tions have been established on wages and cost of living, cooperatives, and housing.

During recent years the subjects of housing and urban development have come to be recognized as important aspects of inter-American activities. Latin America suffers from a shortage of well-built, substantial dwellings equipped for modern hygienic living. Likewise the United States has before it the greatest housing and city building program in its history. An increasing number of students and technicians in the housing and planning field have been exchanging visits, to their mutual advantage in the interchange of ideas, techniques, and information.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION

"The Governments of the American Republics shall give preferential attention to public health problems, and particularly to those of sanitation, control of endemics, preventive and curative care, and decrease in infant mortality, and provide all possible means for the solution of such problems. . . . The Governments of the American Republics shall intensify the mutual aid that they have been giving from time to time, in all pertinent aspects of public health, improvement of nutrition and food supplies, as well as preventive and curative care. The Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall continue to act as the general coordinating agency of the American Republics. . . ."

DECLARATION ON HEALTH SECURITY,
Inter-American Conference on Prob-
lems of War and Peace, Mexico, 1945.

It is not surprising that it is in the field of public health and sanitation that cooperation among the peoples of the Americas has registered its greatest gains. Two quite different reasons explain this. The first, or unselfish, motive, lies in the fact that no force so quickly sweeps away international barriers as the sympathy of one people for the physical suffering of another. The second, or selfish, reason, is the realization that the dread disease that today strikes a neighbor may strike home tomorrow.

The cooperation of the American Republics in this field found early expression in the establishment in 1902 of a permanent organization—the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and the Pan American Sanitary Conference.

The record of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau is a proud one. It has been cooperating with national health departments in a campaign to eradicate the bubonic plague. It has also organized campaigns with vigor and success against such scourges as typhus, malaria, and venereal disease. Special studies have been undertaken on nutrition, for which purpose a Pan American Committee on Nutrition was appointed to consider new developments. In the building of the Pan American Highway, when the possibility arose that groups of laborers might become infected and thus spread disease, the Bureau was called upon to organize and direct a broad program of sanitation and control.

The Pan American Sanitary Bureau serves as the permanent organ of the Pan American Sani-

tary Conferences and the Pan American Conferences of National Directors of Health, both meeting every four years but at alternate times. The Bureau is supported by annual contributions from the twenty-one Republics in amounts proportional to population, and by special grants from Governments and Foundations for specific purposes, which have often enabled the Bureau to accomplish certain important objectives for which its limited funds would have been insufficient.

The work of individual scientists and official organizations has been admirably supplemented by that of private organizations.

While it is not possible to outline the activities of all of these entities, mention must be made of the important contributions made by the Rockefeller Foundation, a pioneer in the field. Dr. Aristides Moll, of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, has thus summarized their activities:

"The Rockefeller Foundation has not limited itself to scientific and financial assistance in campaigns against specific conditions such as yellow fever and intestinal parasitism. It has helped

in the improvement of medical and nursing schools and health institutes and grants of fellowships in the United States which would raise the professional level of the personnel engaged in such fields."

A relative newcomer, which cannot be overlooked because of its splendid achievements, is the Division of Health and Sanitation of the Institute of Inter-American Affairs. Since its establishment in March 1942, it has contributed over \$35,000,000 to works of public health and environmental sanitation, including the building of water supplies, sewage disposal systems, and health centers and hospitals. The outstanding feature of this work is that it has been done on a cooperative basis with the other American Republics, which have contributed an amount exceeding \$22,000,000 as well as most of the personnel involved in the execution of these programs.

A close and effective cooperation prevails among these and other related organizations in the Americas, one institution often aiding another in the accomplishment of its mission, the final goal of all being the welfare of mankind.



Courtesy of Department of Health and Welfare, Mexico

Modern facilities protect the health of the people.

Cultural Relations

“Culture is the philosophy, the idea, the process of thinking.”

Friendship among the peoples of the Western Hemisphere is constantly growing. The formal agreements of governments, international pacts, treaties, and agreements are being made effective by the positive action of the people, who are beginning to know each other through the most permanent of values—the spiritual or cultural.

The stress which we are placing today on the interchange of culture is a natural outgrowth of a force which has always been latent. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries the writings of North Americans such as Payne and Jefferson circulated widely in the then restless colonies of Spain. Foresighted men like Bolívar appreciated the value of educational interchange, as witnessed by the fact that his nephew attended the University of Virginia. The influence of educators such as Andrés Bello of Venezuela and Eugenio María de Hostos of Puerto Rico was felt far beyond the boundaries of their native lands. They made distinct contributions to the development of the educational systems of the entire group of Spanish-speaking nations of the Western Hemisphere, already closely linked by common characteristics.

Between them and Portuguese-speaking Brazil and French-speaking Haiti historical association and language affinity constituted a natural bond. As the movement expanded it took in the Anglo-

Saxon north. Domingo Faustino Sarmiento, the school-master President of Argentina, through his close personal relationship and admiration for Horace Mann became a well-known figure in educational circles in the United States. While serving as Minister to the United States he found much that could be of value to his country, and enlisted the aid of several North American teachers, who made unselfish and important contributions to the cause of intellectual cooperation. Sarmiento's friendship with men like Emerson and Longfellow also influenced the latter. Literary exchange began to flower. Longfellow's translations made Latin-American poetry known in the United States. Edgar Allen Poe became a byword in the other American Republics. Walt Whitman swept the continent. The spark was there.

The first World War fanned the spark. The United States and the Republics of Latin America, all of which had turned to Europe for intellectual guidance, were suddenly drawn together. One concrete result was the Pan American Scientific Congress of 1915, which met with the avowed purpose of promoting greater cultural interchange in the Americas. Two years later the Pan American Union took another step forward with the creation of the Division of Intellectual Cooperation. The work of this Division was to develop closer cultural ties among the countries members of the Union, through teacher and student exchange and a study of the languages, history, literature and the arts of all these countries, by fostering relations between individual scholars and scientific and cultural bodies, and by encouraging the translation and publication of articles

which would reflect the cultural life of these countries.

The spark was *kindled*. Organizations sprang up on all sides. Conferences on education, science, and art began to be held in the United States and Latin America. The Buenos Aires Convention for the Promotion of Inter-American Cultural Relations in 1936, provided for the exchange of students and professors on a large scale. By the terms of this treaty each government undertook to award two fellowships annually to graduate students or teachers and to invite one professor from each of the other countries. Cultural institutes were established.

The Eighth International Conference of American States held at Lima in 1938 reflected the trend. One-third of the resolutions adopted might be said to fall within the category of intellectual cooperation. One year later came the First Inter-American Conference of National Committees for Intellectual Cooperation. The thinkers of America, the writers, the artists, the musicians united to shape the destinies of a Continent, not through political instruments, but through the more formidable weapon of man's spirit.

The spark became a *flame*. The password was "Know the Americas." Returning travelers and students made their influence felt. The Western Hemisphere became aware of its own native culture. Translations of North American literature flooded Latin America. Pan American Clubs mushroomed all over the United States. Rumblings of old-world disintegration tended to make the younger nations of the west more and more aware of one another.

In the United States this spontaneous manifestation of the people was given further official recognition by the creation of a special unit—the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs—which provided large resources for promoting greater friendship among the countries of the Americas through greater cultural cooperation. Working hand in hand with existing private institutions and aiding in the establishment of new centers, it gave great impetus to the movement.

World War II found the Americas prepared for joint action. They re-discovered their own art, literature, science, and music. From North to South and back again extended a continuous chain of cultural links.

In music, each country in the Western



The universities of the Americas welcome students from every corner of the Hemisphere.



Courtesy of Institute of Inter-American Affairs

Child welfare is of continental concern.

Hemisphere had until this time maintained its dependence upon Europe for leadership and materials, techniques, and standards of judgment. Cut off by the war from European inspiration, the American nations became acquainted with one another's resources, with the result that musical independence from Europe is now an accomplished fact.

Music, perhaps the most spontaneous and universal cultural medium, has contributed greatly to friendly relations among the people of America. For dancing, Latin America favors American jazz, while the rhythms of the tango, the rumba, and the samba captivate the North American. In the concert hall, too, musicians of the continent are keenly aware of what is going on in the other countries and to an increasing extent composers and conductors are exchanging visits and becoming better acquainted with one another's works.

Because the art of music calls not only for individual skill but for the participation of large groups, it is peculiarly suited to large-scale organization. Thus it is that through radio, phonograph, film, concert management, education, scholarships, and the business and professional organizations related to these, a community of interest of unusual strength is being formed. This may enable the hemisphere to take a position of leadership in the rebuilding of world music relations so largely destroyed by war.

The work of the Music Division of the Pan American Union created in 1941, is to circulate information, make contacts, promote organization, and in general to aid in the integration of the

music-cultural life of the hemisphere, not only in its regional but in its world relations.

Today, it is almost impossible to summarize in a few words the many and varied activities that are constantly taking place in the ever widening field of cultural interchange. The government-sponsored exchange of students, professors, and leaders had grown to such an extent that a special section of the Department of State of the United States is called the "Division of International Exchange of Persons." An equally enthusiastic co-operation is shown by all the governments of the other American Republics.

Students are also choosing to "KNOW THE AMERICAS" on their own. The University of Chile shows an ever increasing enrollment of foreign students, ranging all the way from Argentina up to the United States. As students from the other American Republics continue to pour into the United States, the Veterans Administration's Division of Foreign Education has placed more than one hundred institutions in Latin America on the approved school list for study under the GI Bill of Rights. Hundreds of veterans will take advantage of the educational opportunities offered by such time-honored institutions as the University of Mexico, of Chile, of San Marcos, of Havana, and others.

Art exhibits, book fairs, seminars, summer sessions, radio programs, all flourish under the sponsorship of government offices or purely private institutions. Spanish translations of North American books are made almost as soon as the book is published in the United States. More and more books from Latin America are being translated into English and read in the United States.

Today, the Americas can look back with satisfaction at the tremendous progress that has been made in a field so important to the true friendship of peoples. It can also look forward with confidence.

"Opposed to universal pessimism, the spirit is warmed by meetings of this nature, dealing solely with topics that have as an objective the spiritual dignity of the people and the dissemination of the ideals of Peace and Justice."

JUVENAL HERNÁNDEZ, Chile.



Courtesy of Institute of Inter-American Affairs

Cultural interchange promotes understanding.

The Inter-American System and the World Organization

“The American Republics are determined to cooperate with one another and with other peace-loving nations in the establishment of a General International Organization based upon law, justice, and equity.

The American Republics desire to make their full contribution, individually and by common action in and through the Inter-American System, effectively coordinating and harmonizing that System with the general international organization for the realization of the latter's objectives.”

RESOLUTION XXX, INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON PROBLEMS OF WAR AND PEACE.

Mexico, 1945.

These declarations reflect the attitude of the American Republics toward the United Nations. Throughout their history the nations of the Western Hemisphere have cooperated with one another. Most of them participated in the earlier attempt at world organization, as members of the League of Nations. All of them supported the establishment of the United Nations at the end of World War II.

But whereas the rest of the world has been virtually without any international organization, the

American Republics for more than half a century have been cooperating successfully through the Pan American Union as a regional international organization devoted to the very same purposes as those which motivate the United Nations. The question naturally arises: How should the individual republics of America view the United Nations and the Pan American Union? How should these two organizations view each other?

Following the adoption of the above general declarations at Mexico City, the relation of the Inter-American System to the world organization was the subject of much discussion at San Francisco where the United Nations Charter was finally signed. Chapter VIII of the Charter specifically recognizes “the existence of regional arrangements or agencies for dealing with such matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security as are appropriate for regional action.”

The Charter also urges the solution by negotiation, inquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, *resort to regional agencies or arrangements*, or other peaceful means of their own choice. It likewise recognizes the right of any group of nations to enter into agreements for self-defense.

Primary responsibility for the pacific settlement of international controversies is placed upon regional agencies. Ultimate responsibility for the maintenance of peace rests with the Security Council of the United Nations.

The foregoing provisions relate only to matters

affecting peace and security. With respect to regional forms of cooperation in social, economic and related fields, the San Francisco Conference decided that it would be unnecessary to include any specific provision of this sort in the Charter. Hence it may be assumed that it was intended to apply to these fields the same basis of organization as that applied to questions of peace and security.

The Governing Board of the Pan American Union has also given consideration to the relations of specialized inter-American organizations with similar organizations operating on a world level, and has formulated the following principles to govern such relations:

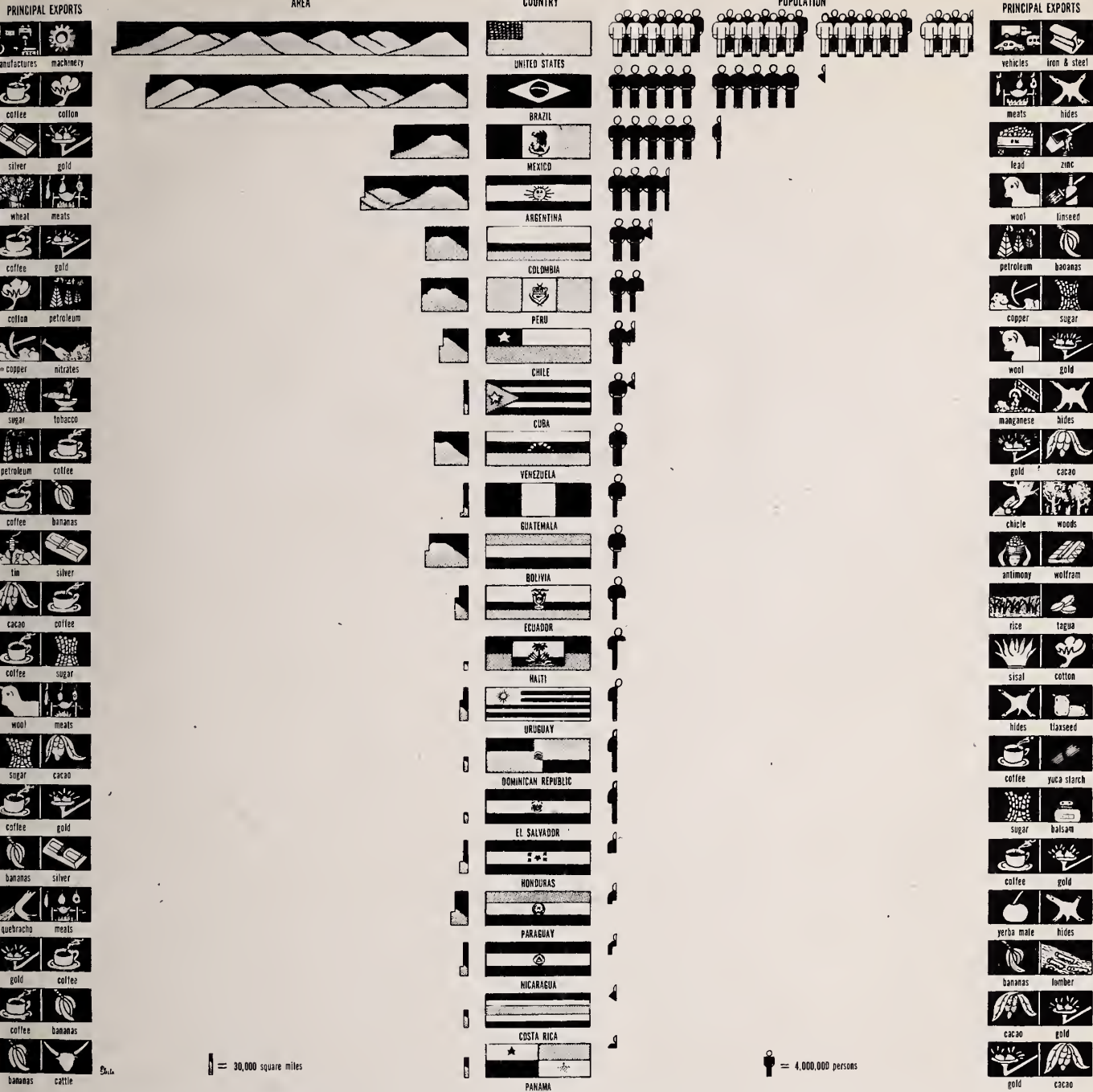
1. The specialized inter-American organizations that function within the System shall establish the closest cooperative relations with similar world organizations, effectively coordinating and harmonizing their activities in order to achieve their common purposes.
2. The specialized inter-American organizations shall preserve their identity and position as an integral part of the Inter-American System, when entering into agreements with world organizations.

3. The Governing Board of the Pan American Union shall intervene whenever it may deem it necessary in the negotiation of any agreement between the specialized organizations of the Inter-American System and similar organizations of the world system.

In reaffirming the integrity and preserving the identity of the Inter-American System, the American Republics are at the same time committed to full support of the United Nations. The Republics of the Western Hemisphere can offer to the new organization the best features of their own system of international organization, which can boast a longer record of successful and continuous operation than any organization of independent states in history.

The two international bodies have outlined a satisfactory basis upon which to divide activities involving the Republics of the Western Hemisphere. The Inter-American System has acknowledged that final authority in security and certain other matters rests with the United Nations. The United Nations, on its part, has recognized the existence of regional organizations and indicated its intention to utilize them to a great extent in deciding matters confined to their respective areas.

The Americas at a Glance



Country	Population	Area Square Miles	Capital	Popula- tion	Country	Population	Area Square Miles	Capital	Popula- tion
Argentina	14,130,871	1,072,746	Buenos Aires	2,589,215	Haiti	2,719,474	10,700	Port-au-Prince	170,000
Bolivia	3,533,900	416,040	La Paz	301,000	Honduras	1,201,310	59,161	Tegucigalpa	47,223
Brazil	41,565,083	3,286,170	Rio de Janeiro	1,781,567	Mexico	22,178,423	758,258	Mexico, D. F.	1,448,422
Chile	5,389,554	286,396	Santiago	639,546	Nicaragua	1,070,475	57,915	Managua	118,448
Colombia	8,701,816	439,828	Bogotá	358,030	Panama	631,637	28,575	Panama	111,893
Costa Rica	725,149	23,000	San José	72,370	Paraguay	1,071,689	149,807	Asunción	172,423
Cuba	4,778,583	44,218	Habana	568,913	Peru	7,395,687	482,258	Lima	672,764
Dominican Republic	1,940,546	19,332	Ciudad Trujillo	90,000	United States	143,061,487	3,619,644	Washington, D. C.	836,900
Ecuador	3,241,311	115,830	Quito	150,374	Uruguay	2,202,936	72,153	Montevideo	703,894
El Salvador	1,934,925	13,176	San Salvador	112,254	Venezuela	3,996,095	352,143	Caracas	269,030
Guatemala	3,546,624	48,290	Guatemala City	163,826					



UNITED STATES

MEXICO

CUBA

DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC

HAITI

HONDURAS

GUATEMALA

EL SALVADOR

NICARAGUA

COSTA
RICA

PANAMA

VENEZUELA

COLOMBIA

ECUADOR

PERU

BRAZIL

BOLIVIA

PARA
GUAY

CHILE

URUGUAY

ARGENTINA